

Serial No.: 10/020,593  
Examiner: Derrick W. Ferris

**In the Specification:**

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, paragraph [0001], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0001] This application discloses subject matter related to the subject matter disclosed in commonly owned, co-pending U.S. Patent Application No.: 10/020,619 (~~Atty. Docket No. 1285-0078US~~), entitled "SIGNALING FOR CONGESTION CONTROL, LOAD BALANCING, AND FAIRNESS IN A RESILIENT PACKET RING", filed 12/13/2001 in the name(s) of: Kamakshi Sridhar.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, paragraph [0033], with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0033] Traffic performance (e.g., delay, jitter, dropped packets) is sensed by the QoS/BB monitor 302 at periodic time intervals by an in- or out-of-band signaling mechanism, such as that described in commonly-assigned U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/020,619 (~~Atty. Docket No. 1285-0078US~~), filed 12/13/2001, entitled SIGNALING FOR CONGESTION CONTROL, LOAD BALANCING, AND FAIRNESS IN A RESILIENT PACKET RING, which is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety. Changes to the QoS and BB parameters are made after load imbalance is detected, as will be described in greater detail below.